

AMEND COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934

MARCH 20, 1968.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MAGNUSON, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 3135]

The Committee on Commerce, to which was referred the bill (S. 3135) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 by extending the authorization of appropriations for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

S. 3135 is in the nature of a technical amendment to the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967. When the act was adopted, section 396(k)(1) provided for an authorization of \$9 million for the activities of the Corporation for the fiscal year 1968. In view of the fact that the Corporation is only now being organized, it would not be practical to expect an appropriation of the funds authorized for fiscal 1968 at this late date. S. 3135 takes cognizance of this situation by changing the authorization from fiscal 1968 to fiscal 1969.

Insofar as the long-range financing of the corporation is concerned, the President indicated in his message on education that the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, and the Board of Directors for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting will be working with the appropriate congressional committees to formulate long-range financing plans.

No other provision of the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967 is affected by this legislation.

AGENCY COMMENTS

Letters from the Acting Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, dated March 11 and March 18, 1968 follow.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
March 18, 1968.

HON. WARREN G. MAGNUSON,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is in response to your request of March 12, 1968, for a report on S. 3135, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 by extending the authorization of appropriations for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

This bill embodies the legislative proposal contained in a draft bill submitted by this Department to the Congress on March 11, 1968. For your convenience a copy of the letter to the President of the Senate briefly explaining the proposal is enclosed.

We urge early enactment of this proposed legislation.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that enactment of this proposed legislation would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

WILBUR J. COHEN,
Acting Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
March 11, 1968.

HON. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY,
President of the Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Enclosed is a draft of a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 by extending the authorization of appropriations for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

In view of the delay in the initiation of the Corporation's activities, it is unlikely that it would need or be able to use any appropriated funds this year. We anticipate, however, that it will begin to need and be able to use such funds in fiscal year 1969.

The enclosed draft bill would take cognizance of this situation by substituting for the present authorization of \$9 million for fiscal year 1968 an authorization of a like amount of appropriations for fiscal year 1969. As the President indicated in his message on education, we will be working with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, and the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, as well as appropriate congressional committees, to formulate a long-range financing plan.

We should appreciate it if you would refer the enclosed draft bill to the appropriate committee for consideration.

We are advised by the Bureau of the Budget that enactment of this bill would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

WILBUR J. COHEN,
Acting Secretary.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in *italic*, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

CHANGES IN PART IV OF TITLE III OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934 MADE BY THE AMENDMENT TO PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2) OF SECTION 396(k) OF THAT ACT.

SUBPART B—CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

SEC. 396. * * *

FINANCING

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(k)(1) There are authorized to be appropriated for expenses of the Corporation for the fiscal year ending June 30, **[1968]** *1969*, the sum of \$9,000,000 to remain available until expended.

(2) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this section, no grant or contract pursuant to this section may provide for payment from the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, **[1968]** *1969*, for any one project or to any one station of more than \$250,000.

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